



STIEMER VALLEI

Het zit
in onze natuur.

Meer info: [Stiemervallei.be](https://www.stiemervallei.be)

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Development
Stiemer valley
co-creation



Objective

As part of the development strategy of the city
of Genk,

develop a multifunctional blue-green urban
valley that increases the quality of life and the
resilience of Genk

How?

Propelling a co-creative city making project

building upon

ownership
engagement
activation

of a variety of

usual and non-usual stakeholders

CO-CREATION

What?

Ambition

- discussion partner
 - open dialogue looking for solutions
 - equal position
- Self reflective
 - to match our ambitions/policies against expectations/needs of different stakeholders

CO-CREATION

What?

Process

- Map all stakeholders
- Determine degree of participation
- Tailor made
- Enthusiastic front runner – mandate & time for relationship building

Example: Schansbroek



Lessons learned

- Time consuming but smart investment in the long run
 - Value input from users (e.g. children - do not underestimate them!)
 - Traditional partners: from reactive to pro-active, from judge to co-owner
 - Determine stakeholders very carefully
 - Include experts for direct interaction
 - Very hard to involve citizens in their daily struggle to make ends meet
→ Civic society very important
- } legitimacy

Example: junior team

- 9 children
- 12 years old
- 12 weeks – every Wednesday afternoon
- Every year different theme
- Identifying quick wins for the development of the Stiemer Valley



Challenges

- Watch over experts dominating the process
- Include stakeholders from quintuple helix model – not only citizens
- City as a partner, not only organiser
- Evolve from ad hoc participation moments to long term involvement
- Value local civic society and build sustainable relations with them



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